



**Information Governance Team**

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02 May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA)**

**Request ID: FOI506702544**

Thank you for your request for information relating to disabled children's occupational therapy.

You have requested the following information:

**Under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and in relation to disabled children's occupational therapy (OT) services provided by your local authority, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information to us:**

**For the following two periods:**

- 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022 and
- 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

**1. What was the average timeframe from referral of a disabled child to the Occupational Therapy service to the comprehensive assessment of their needs by an Occupational Therapist?**

From the date of receipt of this request:

Children's referrals are received at Adult Social Care Direct, where they are screened and allocated, the time frame is dependent on whether they are graded as Standard (28 days) Medium (21 days) or Urgent (7 Days). Allocations are made according to age of 0-14 to children's occupational therapist, 14 and above go to the wider OT team.

Once allocated, contact is made to arrange a home visit, this is usually within a 2 /3-week

timeframe and start of the OT assessment.

Some of the referrals are sent by the NHS OT's, quite often they have had a discussion with SSOT to see if the referral is eligible.

The average wait from date of receipt is 28 days, initial assessments are completed quite quickly once allocated to OT. There can be timescale variables related to family availability etc.

## **2. How many disabled children are currently waiting for an assessment?**

There are currently eight children currently waiting to be allocated, these are new referrals which are in the screening process waiting to be allocated. These will be allocated within the time frame to children's OT. This changes daily as new referrals are received daily.

There are four new children that have been allocated to children's OT, with all visits booked in for assessments.

## **3. After being referred, what is the longest waiting time that a disabled child is currently waiting for an assessment?**

28 days to commence assessment process.

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If you are unhappy with the outcome of our review, you can write to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or email [icocasework@ico.org.uk](mailto:icocasework@ico.org.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in your response.

Yours faithfully

**Information Governance**